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Anguilla

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I. General

1. Anguilla is a Non-Self-Governing Territory administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Territory lies 240 kilometres east of Puerto Rico, 113 kilometres north-west of Saint Kitts and Nevis and 8 kilometres north of St. Maarten/St. Martin. The Territory has a relatively flat topography, a total area of 96 square kilometres and includes several offshore islets. The main island has a maximum length of 26 kilometres and a maximum width of 5 kilometres. The capital of Anguilla is The Valley, where 43 per cent of the population resides.

2. An estimate of July 2007 puts Anguilla's population at 13,677, with an annual population growth rate of approximately 1.4 per cent.[1] There are several thousand Anguillians living abroad, in particular in the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the United States Virgin Islands. Of the total population, 99 per cent speaks English. Spanish or Chinese are the most common mother tongues among non-English speakers.

II. Constitutional, legal and political issues

3. Originally inhabited by the Arawaks, Anguilla was first colonized by British settlers in 1650. For administrative purposes, it was associated with Saint Kitts and Nevis from 1871 to 1980. Following the dissolution of the Federation of the West Indies in 1962, Saint Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla became a State in association with the United Kingdom. Following a number of demonstrations demanding secession from Saint Kitts and Nevis, in the referendum held in July 1967, the vote was 1,813 to 5 in favour of secession. Further demonstrations and protracted negotiations were followed by the intervention of British security forces in 1969 and the Anguilla Act of 1971, under which the United Kingdom reassumed direct responsibility for the administration of the Territory, appointed a Commissioner and provided for the establishment of an Island Council. A separate Constitution came into effect in February 1976. In 1980, at Anguilla's request, arrangements were made by the Government of the United Kingdom for the Territory to be withdrawn formally from the Associated State of Saint Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and become a separate dependency of the United Kingdom.

4. In 1981 further constitutional talks between the Governments of Anguilla and the United Kingdom were held. Under a new Constitution, while not providing for a full measure of internal self-government, a substantial degree of additional local responsibility would be granted to the Government of Anguilla. The Anguilla House of Assembly approved the new Constitution and the United Kingdom enabled the Anguilla (Constitution) Order to come into force on 1 April 1982.

5. According to the Anguilla Constitution Order, which was amended in 1990, the Government of Anguilla consists of a Governor, an Executive Council and a House of Assembly. The Governor, who is appointed by the United Kingdom, is

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Note: The information contained in the present working paper has been derived from published sources, *including those of the territorial Government, and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the administering Power under Article 73 e of* the Charter of the United Nations.

[1] *CIA World Factbook, 16 January 2008.*

responsible for defence, external affairs, internal security, including the police and prison services, international financial services, public service appointments and the application to public servants of their terms and conditions of service. On all other matters, the Governor is required to consult with and act on the advice of the Executive Council. The Executive Council consists of the Chief Minister, not more than three other ministers and two ex officio members (the Attorney General and the Deputy Governor). The Governor acts as Chairman. The House of Assembly is elected for five-year terms. It comprises a Speaker, seven members elected from single-member constituencies, the same two ex officio members as in the Executive Council and two members nominated by the Governor, one of whom is appointed upon the advice of the Chief Minister and the other after consultation with the Chief Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, as appropriate.

6. The current Governor, Andrew N. George, took office in July 2006, having previously worked in the Human Resources Directorate of the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

7. General elections, held on 21 February 2005, saw the return of the United Front Government, an alliance of the Anguilla Democratic Party and the Anguilla National Alliance, under Osbourne Fleming, with four seats. The Anguilla Strategic Alliance won two seats and the Anguilla United Movement one seat. Shortly afterwards, an opposition member crossed the floor, giving the Government five out of seven elected members in the House of Assembly. Given the even number of seats thus held by each opposition party, it was not possible for the Governor to appoint a Leader of the Opposition. The next elections are due in 2010.[2]

8. The law of Anguilla is the common law of the United Kingdom, together with all legislation inherited from the former associated State of Saint Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla up to August 1971 and the local legislation enacted since. The law is administered by the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, which comprises a Court of Appeal and a High Court of Justice, courts of summary jurisdiction and a magistrates court. Consolidated texts of all Anguilla's legislation up to 2004 are available in hard copy and computer disk from the Territory's Attorney General Chambers.[2]

9. The basis of the relationship between the United Kingdom Government and its Non-Self-Governing Territories is set out in the White Paper, entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories", published in March 1999.[3] The British Overseas Territories Act 2002, which came into force on 21 May 2002, abolished the terms "colony" and "dependent territory" and granted the right of British citizenship to "British Overseas Territory citizens".

10. In early 2006 the territorial Government established a Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission to reinvigorate the constitutional review process. This was to take into account the efforts of the Committee for Constitutional and Electoral Reform set up in 2001, which did not finish its work and made no recommendations for reform. The Commission was chaired by retired Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Justice Don Mitchell, and presented its report to the

[2] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008.

[3] "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories", White Paper submitted to the House of Commons on 17 March 1999 by the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; reproduced in A/AC.109/1999/1, annex.

territorial Government in July 2006. The report is presented as a set of recommended changes to the current constitution, designed to provide the Territory with more internal self-governance. According to its report, the Commission found that Anguillians were generally satisfied with the 1982 Constitution, which provided them with a large degree of autonomy, external (United Kingdom) forces for defence, and overseas representation by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Furthermore, the report stated that there was one small group in the Territory that favoured independence. The Government has considered the recommendations, consulted with members of the House of Assembly and the public through a series of meetings, and is in the process of making further recommendations to the United Kingdom Government.[4]

11. Speaking before the United Kingdom House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee on 3 December 2007, in reply to a question as to when constitutional talks would restart, the Chief Minister stated that it was hoped they would start again in January 2008. They had not begun in September 2007 as expected, since the people of Anguilla had decided to revisit the Commission's recommendations. The feeling that emerged from that process, according to the Chief Minister, was that Anguilla should have full internal self-government. It was on that basis that the process would move forward.

12. In reply to a question on Anguilla's relationship with its Governor, the Chief Minister inter alia stated: "As elected Members, we feel that the time has come when senior appointments should not be made with the consultation of the Governor, but with the advice of the elected Members." In addition, the Chief Minister stressed the need for a fifth minister in the territorial Government.[5]

III. Budget

13. In Anguilla, the fiscal year corresponds to the calendar year. In December 2007, the Minister of Finance presented the 2008 Budget to the House of Assembly. In his presentation, he highlighted the areas where targets were achieved or surpassed within the fiscal plan, including recurrent revenues (in particular import duty, stamp duty, and accommodation tax) and contributions to fiscal reserves. The Minister outlined the need to consolidate the gains that had been made, while addressing various social challenges. The recurrent expenditure for 2008 was projected at approximately East Caribbean (EC)$ 255 million, with capital expenditure projected at approximately EC$ 53 million. This would be financed by recurrent revenue of over EC$ 238 million, and borrowing of up to EC$ 17 million to finance a number of projects. At the time the 2008 Budget was presented to the House of Assembly, reserves stood at EC$ 40.7 million, compared to the target of EC$ 32.2 million for the year.[6]

[4] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008; *The Anguillian*, 20 April 2007.

[5] Osbourne Fleming, Uncorrected transcript of oral evidence to be published as HC 147-i, House of Commons, Minutes of evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee, Overseas territories, Monday 3 December 2007, http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmfaff/uc147-i/uc14702.htm.

[6] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008; Budget Address 2008, http://www.gov.ai.

14. The Minister of Finance further indicated that the rapid pace of economic development was being closely monitored to help the territorial Government to curb inflationary pressures and to protect real incomes. The unprecedented historical level of growth was not sustainable as the economy was already experiencing severe shortages in labour and rising wage inflation.[6]

15. According to the administering Power, bilateral aid from the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) ceased with effect from 31 March 2005 because of the improvement in Anguilla's per capita gross domestic product (GDP) ratio. Despite the cessation of bilateral aid, Anguilla can still benefit from the DFID regional aid programme for the United Kingdom Overseas Territories in the Caribbean.[2]

IV. Economic conditions

A. General

16. In recent years, economic activity in Anguilla has steadily increased, largely based on the tourism sector. According to the administering Power, GDP has grown at an average annual rate of 6.1 per cent during the five-year period 2001 to 2005. GDP for 2006 was approximately EC$ 281 million, an increase of about 15 per cent from the revised figure of EC$ 245 million in 2005. The per capita GDP amounted to EC$ 29,835 (US$ 11,132). Preliminary estimates for 2007 indicate that GDP growth would again be in excess of 10 per cent. The Ministry of Finance projected a recurrent surplus of over EC$ 38 million for 2007, which would continue a trend of recurrent surpluses since 2004.[6]

17. Tourism (hotels and restaurants); banking and insurance; construction; and government services were the major contributors to economic activity, accounting for approximately 33 per cent, 17 per cent, 16 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively, of GDP in 2006. GDP is projected to grow in excess of 10 per cent in 2007, driven primarily by activity in the tourism and construction sectors as major US$ 500 million and US$ 250 million resort and residence projects continue.[6]

18. At the same time, inflation has risen over the past few years. According to the administering Power, the territorial Government is aware of the need to monitor inflation and manage the economy so that inflation does not get out of control.[2]

B. Tourism

19. Luxury tourism continues to be central to Anguilla's economy. Pursuing a "low volume, high value" tourism strategy, the Executive Council recently approved a two-year tourism sector development project, which includes contracting the services of a tourism planning consultant to be attached to the Ministry of Tourism; conducting an Economic Social Impact Analysis of the 4,500 tourism rooms projected to be available by 2020; and coordinating the Tourism Master Plan Study 2010-2020, to be completed by July 2009.[7] Three major private sector projects are

[7] Budget Address 2008; http://www.gov.ai.

under construction, one owned by a local company and another relying on local labour, with the third foreign owned and comprising mostly migrant workers.[8]

20. The marketing and promotional activities of the Anguilla Tourist Board and the Anguilla Hotel and Tourism Association are reported to have had a positive impact on the industry. Anguilla has benefited from increased market awareness and media attention as an up-market tourism and honeymoon destination. Efforts have also been made by the "Charming Escapes" programme to highlight quality mid-market and budget accommodations on the island, and promote small indigenous businesses. Anguilla is developing an active real estate sector aligned to the new resort and residential tourism projects.[9]

C. Financial services

21. According to the territorial Government's website, Anguilla's financial services sector has experienced significant growth in the areas of international licenses, offshore banking and mutual funds. The industry now includes 4 commercial banks, 44 offshore businesses, and 53 trust companies, among others.[10]

22. Anguilla entered the field of financial services relatively late and has a small international finance sector, specializing in trust and company registration. There are no income, estate or capital gains taxes.

23. Anguilla's Financial Services Commission, established in 2004, is an independent regulatory body that focuses on licensing, supervision of licensees, monitoring of financial services in general, reviewing existing financial services legislation and making recommendations for new legislation, as well as maintaining contact with appropriate foreign and international regulatory authorities.

24. As previously reported (see A/AC.109/2007/8), the Territory has in place effective anti-money-laundering legislation, including the Proceeds of Criminal Conduct Act, 2000; the Money Laundering Reporting Authority Act, 2000; the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations; the Guidance Notes on the Prevention of Money Laundering; and the Criminal Justice Act. The Government of Anguilla reviewed and amended its Proceeds of Crime legislation and other areas of anti-money-laundering regulation to ensure compliance with the requirements of the international regulatory bodies, in particular the revised 40 recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, as well as the eight special recommendations on terrorist financing.[2]

D. Agriculture and fishery

25. According to the administering Power, the Government continues to implement plans for institutional strengthening and human resource development in order to effectively manage the fisheries and other marine resources of the island.

[8] *The Anguillian*, 7 May 2007. The number of visitor arrivals increased from 143,186 in 2005 to 167,245 in 2006, http://gov.ai/statistics/Jun_August.htm.

[9] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008; http://www.anguillanews.com, 15 January 2008.

[10] http://www.gov.ai, 25 April 2007.

The Marine Parks Project which commenced in July 2005 was completed in February 2007. The project involved conducting underwater rapid ecological assessments within all five of Anguilla's marine parks, to assess habitat characteristics, as well as the diversity, abundance, and size of fish species. The findings showed that Anguilla has important reef systems and generally healthy populations of fish.[11]

26. Agricultural activity in Anguilla is limited owing to a combination of poor soil and irregular rainfall. Nevertheless, agriculture continues to play a part in the livelihood of the local population. In 2006, agriculture (including fishing, crops and livestock) contributed about 2.4 per cent to GDP.[2]

27. In response to demand for vegetables in the tourism sector and the increasing number of retail outlets, a growing number of small farmers have invested in drip irrigation technology for intensive farming. A hydroponics farm using mineral nutrient solutions instead of soil was developed in Anguilla, which provides fruit and vegetables for a holiday complex.[12] According to the administering Power, an active Farmers' Association is cooperating with Government technical officers to increase production of green vegetables and reduce the island's food import bill.

28. Anguilla's fisheries and marine resources hold the potential for the diversification of the tourism-dependent economy. In terms of commercial fishing, studies have shown that deep-sea fishing resources in the Anguilla 200-mile exclusive economic zone can be harnessed in a sustainable manner to satisfy markets locally and regionally.[2]

E. Infrastructure

29. Anguilla has undertaken several projects throughout the island including roadworks, port development, schools development and other national infrastructure needs, that fall under the immediate responsibility of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities and Housing.[13]

30. Anguilla has approximately 150 kilometres of roads, of which 80 kilometres are paved. According to the administering Power, the improvements of roads and the various seaports continued in 2007. During 2008-2009 the main town roads in The Valley will be reengineered and resurfaced. The 2008 budget allocated EC$ 16.3 million to the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities and Housing, designated for road related developments.[6]

31. Master Plan studies for the design and construction of new terminal buildings for the new Blowing Point Port and for the utilization of lands at Corito for a proposed modern deep-water container port were started in 2007. The new jetties at Blowing Point were completed in 2007.[2]

32. According to the administering Power, capital expenditure on the air transport sector is anticipated to continue with the support of the European Union. Improvements were made to the Wallblake Airport. Aircraft movements, especially

[11] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008; http://www.anguillian.com, 20 February 2008.

[12] http://www.cuisinartresort.com, 20 February 2008.

[13] Carribeannetnews.com, 13 February 2008.

in the private jet sector, continued to increase in 2007, creating the need for better refuelling facilities for aircrafts. This resulted in the Government providing a license for a bulk refuelling station at the airport.[2]

F. Communications and utilities

33. Anguilla has a modern internal telephone system and a microwave relay to St. Maarten/St. Martin for international calls, with competition in mobile, landline and Internet services.

34. The territorial Government is in the process of implementing the Water Corporation Act of 2007, which is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission. The Anguilla Electricity Company purchased two new 5-megawatt generators, which ensures an improved power supply to its customers, and has also started the process of purchasing two additional generators to keep up with energy demand.

V. Social conditions

A. General

35. Living standards and social indicators in Anguilla compare favourably with those of other countries in the region. The literacy rate is 95 per cent. In 2007, the life expectancy at birth for females was estimated to be 80.5 and 74.5 for males. Anguilla has had a social security scheme since 1982.

36. In the 2008 Budget Address delivered by the Minister of Finance in December 2007, the territorial Government recognized the challenges in social development that have accompanied economic growth. The top five social concerns were crime, drug use and abuse among youth, youth deviancy, cost of living, and breakdown of the family. According to that statement, the territorial Government was striving to balance the expectations and development aspirations of the people of Anguilla with the future impact of decisions taken, namely, meeting the challenge of sustainable development. While acknowledging the existence of certain social problems, the Minister said that progress was being made with the implementation of programme objectives that would eventually bear fruit, including in the area of poverty reduction. A National Assessment Team for the conduct of the Country Poverty Assessment had been formed and training for its members had begun. The Assessment is expected to begin in 2008.[7]

B. Education

37. Education in Anguilla is free and compulsory between the ages of 5 and 17 delivered through a system from the pre-primary to the post-secondary level. There are 11 private preschools in Anguilla, of which 10 are subsidized by the territorial Government for children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. According to the administering Power, enrolment stands at 413. Children between the ages of 5 and 12 years attend primary school. There are six public and two private primary schools. Special education services are provided at centres attached to two of the larger primary schools. Present enrolment in the primary sector is 1,654.[2]

38. The territorial Government, through the Minister of Infrastructure, is committed to completing the construction of the Alwyn Allison Primary School in West End, with additional features including a library and auditorium; the development of the Morris Vanterpool School; and the commencement of a new primary school for the Island Harbour District.[13]

39. Secondary education in Anguilla is provided at two campuses of the only secondary educational institution on Anguilla, the Albena Lake-Hodge Comprehensive School. According to the administering Power, alternative skills programmes are offered at the refurbished old hospital and a Pupil Referral Unit has been established at another site. There are some 1,071 students currently enrolled at the school.[14]

40. The Adult and Continuing Education Unit of the Department of Education and the University of the West Indies Distance Education Centre (UWIDEC) provide tertiary education in Anguilla, offering primary and secondary teacher training and basic skills training programmes. The UWIDEC extension campus in Anguilla offers a range of distance education programmes to students on Anguilla, based on the system used by the University of the West Indies. A National Community College was established in 2007, and will be a priority in 2008 as the Territory responds to the increasing shortage of skilled personnel in the critical hospitality and construction sectors. A Community College Implementation Unit was set up in the latter part of 2006 and currently manages the College.[2]

C. Public health

41. The 2008 budget makes provision for EC$ 24 million for the Health Authority. Capital estimates for the development of health services in 2008 amount to approximately EC$ 2 million, while EC$ 2.7 million has been allocated for the capital development of the National Health Fund. As previously reported, the territorial Government has announced plans to introduce a levy to establish a National Health Insurance scheme. That legislation is being drafted for enactment in 2008.[15]

42. There are five health centres in the island's three health districts. The territorial Government's health priorities, set out in the strategic plan for health for 2003-2008, include the continued strengthening of primary and secondary health-care services; development of the Health Protection and Quality Assurance Department of the Ministry of Health, dealing with environmental health, water quality monitoring, solid waste disposal services and the regulation of public and private health services; expansion of mental health and psychiatric services; care of the elderly, as well as prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and other communicable and non-communicable diseases.[14]

43. The Board of the Health Authority of Anguilla, installed in December 2003, took over responsibility for all primary, secondary and personal health-care services in January 2004. The Ministry of Social Development is charged with regulating and monitoring public and private health sectors, including the Health Authority of

[14] Information transmitted by the administering Power, 9 January 2007.
[15] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008; www.lachealthsys.org.

Anguilla, performing policymaking, regulatory and purchasing roles in relation to health services.[14]

D. Crime

44. The crime rate in Anguilla is low by regional and international standards, but growing. In December 2007, addressing the United Kingdom House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, the Chief Minister said that the Territory had seen "an unusual level of crime", citing murder and larceny as examples.[5]

45. Steps are being taken to counter that trend. For instance, according to the administering Power, a Drugs and Firearms Task Force was formed in 2006 with the assistance of the United Kingdom, using experienced retired police officers from the United Kingdom to work together with members of the Royal Anguilla Police Force (RAPF). By the end of 2007, the Task Force had been entirely funded by the territorial Government. The United Kingdom continues to assist in training and capacity-building of RAPF, including the anticipated recruitment of a retired police officer in 2008 to head a new Financial Crime Unit within RAPF; scene of crime training; providing an evidence-collecting vehicle; installing computerized and immigration and customs facilities at the ferry port; installing a closed circuit television and security system at a prison facility, and the management of prison services.[16]

46. Moreover, according to the 2008 Budget Address, construction of the short- and medium-term Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre was more than halfway completed. A Manager for the Centre had been hired and the Territory's Department of Probation was currently recruiting the rest of the staff for the Centre. The Department of Probation had served over 100 clients since it was established in 2005 and 90 per cent of probation clients were compliant with probation orders. All juvenile probationers were attending school and over 95 per cent of adult probationers were employed.[7]

VI. Relations with international organizations and partners

47. Anguilla is a member of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank and an associate member of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Association of Caribbean States, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Caribbean Community and Common Market.

48. As a Non-Self-Governing Territory of the United Kingdom, Anguilla is associated with the European Union but not a part of it. The Territory has yet to establish its relation to the European Union's Economic Partnership Agreement.[2]

49. The United Kingdom and those Overseas Territories represented at the 2007 Consultative Council, including Anguilla, agreed to extend the United Nations Convention against Corruption, to all the Overseas Territories at the earliest opportunity, as well as to set a date of June 2008 for the extension of the International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and

[16] Information provided by the administering Power, 16 January 2008; Anguilla profile, www.fco.gov.uk, accessed on 8 February 2008.

Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention No. 182), and December 2008 for the extension of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to all the Overseas Territories.[17]

50. The Government of Anguilla cooperates directly with other Caribbean Governments and participates in regional projects of various international organizations and agencies.[2] For instance, a Caribbean-wide "catastrophe insurance pool" established by the World Bank, has acquired US$ 47 million in funds to assist the Caribbean, including Anguilla, in the event of a hurricane or earthquake.[18]

VII. Future status of the Territory

A. Position of the territorial Government

51. Developments on constitutional reform efforts involving the future status of Anguilla are referred to in section II, "Constitutional, legal and political issues".

B. Position of the administering Power

52. In a communication dated 16 January 2008, the administering Power provided the information set out below:

> "United Kingdom Ministers have made it clear that as long as the Territories wish to retain links with the United Kingdom, the United Kingdom Government will retain sufficient powers, including through the Governor, to ensure the implementation of international obligations, to protect itself against contingent liabilities, and to ensure the good governance of the Territory including maintaining the independence of the judiciary, the administration of justice and the political impartiality of the public service."[2]

53. In a prior statement made at the 5th meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), held on 11 October 2007, during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly (see A/C.4/62/SR.5), the representative of the United Kingdom inter alia said that "her Government, as administering Power for 10 Non-Self-Governing Territories, gave every help and encouragement to those Territories which wished to proceed to independence, where that was an option. Her Government and its overseas territories continued to work towards the shared goals of security, stability and sustainable political and economic development, democracy, good governance and the rule of law. ... Her Government carefully considered all proposals for constitutional change received from the Territories."

54. Moreover, as previously reported (A/AC.109/2007/3), in a statement made on 24 April 2006, the United Kingdom Overseas Territories Minister took stock of the relationship between the United Kingdom and the Overseas Territories seven years on from the 1999 White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories".[3] An elaboration of the United Kingdom's

[17] www.fco.gov.uk, press release, 6 December 2007.
[18] United Press International, 27 February 2007.

position on alternative forms of relationship, as set out in United Nations General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV), has been previously provided.[19]

C. Action taken by the General Assembly

55. On 17 December 2007, the General Assembly adopted, without a vote, resolutions 62/118 A and B, based on the report of the Special Committee transmitted to the General Assembly[20] and its subsequent consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/62/412). Section II of resolution 62/118 B concerns Anguilla. Under that section's operative paragraphs, the General Assembly:

> "1. *Welcomes* the establishment of a new Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, the issuance of its report in 2006 and the holding of public and other consultative meetings early in 2007, with the aim of making recommendations to the administering Power on proposed changes to the Constitution in place in the Territory;
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> "2. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chairperson of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;
>
> "3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public consultative outreach efforts."

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[19] "A Successful Future", Lord Triesman Speech, Turks and Caicos Islands, 24 April 2006 (www.fco.gov.uk); see also A/AC.109/2007/8, para. 65.

[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23).